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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland
SUBJECT Gdynia -- Port Conditions/Security

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

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2. Security -- Ship's Search. The ship was searched on arrival for about three and one half hours and again immediately prior to departure for about four and one half hours. One of our crew members asked the search party what they were looking for; the answer was "We don't know". During the time in port three armed guards patrolled the dock, one at the bow, one at the stern and one stationed at the gangway.

3. Security -- Photograph Taken by a Crew Member. After the ship was berthed and prior to the arrival search a security incident occurred. A messman, Henri R.V. Deneuve (a French national), who had been taking photographs of the various places at which the vessel had previously called during the year and a half he had been aboard, chanced to be observed as he photographed two guards on the pier as they were marching to their posts. Deneuve was questioned aboard ship about this incident for approximately three hours by the local police. I believe that the chief of police was among the questioners. At the end of the questioning Deneuve was said "to have recanted his errors". Written explanations of the incident had to be written and submitted to the local security office by the captain, Deneuve, and a representative from the agent's office. In substance the captain's report contained the following information. Deneuve, because of his youth and enthusiasm in getting photographs of those places which he had visited while aboard this vessel, made the mistake of photographing the two armed guards in Gdynia as they proceeded along the dock. Information furnished to the ship in Sweden

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prior to sailing on the subject of security measures in Gdynia had contained no instructions with regard to the disposition of cameras held by crews. Deneuve now clearly realizes his mistake and is sincerely repentant that such an error was made.

The camera and film were confiscated and it was only through the persistent efforts of the captain that the camera was finally returned to its owner.

4. Naval Vessels Observed. Several minesweepers were noted in port and considerable activity in the naval base was observed. There was no evidence of repair work requiring welding.
5. Pay to Polish Seamen in US Dollars. I have heard a story to the effect that Polish merchant seamen now receive \$45.00 of their monthly pay in US currency.
6. Black Market Exchange Rate. I believe that the official rate of exchange was four zlotys to a US dollar; the standard black market rate of exchange was from 45 to 50 zlotys to the US dollar.
7. Future Itinerary. According to presently known plans for the ship after leaving this port, calls are to be made at Philadelphia or Baltimore and then Norfolk. At Norfolk I understand that we are to load a cargo for Naples. On completion of discharging this cargo we are at present scheduled to proceed in ballast to a port in Pearl River somewhere south of Canton, China. There, so we hear, we are to load a cargo of tangerines and grapefruit, consigned to an unknown port in Germany (Soviet Zone).

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